

## The Salt Lake Tribune

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Monday, June 10, 1912.

It is said to cost six dollars to bathe a U. S. Senator in the baths at the Capitol and in the Senate building. But who will say that it isn't worth it?

The new King of Denmark is the tallest ruler in Europe; he stands six feet six in his stockings; almost as tall as Peter the Great of Russia.

Pioneer Park is now available to the children as a playground; and thus do we progress in this matter along excellent and practical lines.

The "war of races" feared in Havana will, if it materializes, be in effect a loud call for Uncle Sam to come to the rescue.

Commissioner Korns is doing first-class work in determining to protect the purity of the water used in this city, and the people will support him in it.

Curuso's American tour on a four-year contract at more than \$3000 a night might fairly be called gorgeous; and nowhere save in America could he get such prices.

The Senate Committee on Inter-oceanic Canals agrees to the House provision for free passage of American vessels engaged in our coastwise trade. Good enough! That settles an important point, and settles it right.

Four years ago, when Roosevelt, as President, was using his steam roller in the National Republican Convention to get votes for Taft, the committee held secret sessions; but now, under the Taft influence, the sessions are open; which shows the difference between the two men's ideas.

If the House of Representatives succeeds in its effort to abolish the Tariff Board because that board furnishes needed information on the tariff question, it will have not only established its right to be called a Bourbon body, but will prove its desire to be Bourbon in spirit and in fact.

The Presidential preference primaries have all been held, for both parties; and the general result is that the people took precious little interest in them, in spite of the hullabaloo that was raised; which indicates that in an ordinary time, of no great excitement, a mere fraction of the voters would attend them.

The refusal of the New York bankers to answer the questions of the House committee investigating the "Money Trust," and their steady hostility to that investigation, prompts the New York Journal of Commerce and Commercial Advertiser to ask, "Have Our Banks Anything to Conceal?" It's a pertinent question.

Captain Rostron of the Carpathia, who rescued the wrecked Titanic's passengers who were in the life boats, received the plaudits of the world for his humane act; he was presented with a loving-cup of silver, and now he has received a purse of \$10,000. And never were the like appreciations better deserved.

In the Federal investigation which is proposed of the so-called Industrial Workers of the World, important information can be had of Col. Weinstock, whose curious report on the trouble between the "Workers" and the San Diegoans was nominally in favor of the "Workers," but in fact mightily against them.

The progress of military aviation in France makes her the leader in this form of activity. In 1915 France will have nine hundred aeroplanes, and fifteen hundred trained aviators. She can now mobilize 334 aeroplanes, each with two officers, with suitable equipment. A force like that ought to be formidable, but its actual value in either offensive or defensive warfare is thus far undetermined.

The Logan Journal comes out in defense of Pinchot's policies, citing in defense of them certain slashing butcheries and trespasses upon the public lands that had been worked out and exhausted long before Pinchot was ever heard of. And because of those old butcheries, he undertook the punish all succeeding generations that had had nothing to do with them, but merely

wanted their rights under the law. A defense of Pinchot like that is absurd, for all the old butcheries had been stopped before his time.

## IDLE POLITICAL THREATS.

It was to be expected that there would be discontent in the Roosevelt camp when the National Committee set aside the fake contests which the Colonel's friends got up in his interest in the Southern States. These contests have been uniformly decided against him, and for the most part by unanimous vote. They were plainly imposture, and the possibility of the seating of the fake delegates has been hopeless from the first. It is noteworthy that even Col. Roosevelt, although his friends were claiming a lot of delegates from Alabama, had on his list only two where there was the slightest possibility of gaining the seats. In the case of these two, there was just that, a possibility only, and the committee set aside that possibility by emphatic vote.

And now a rail goes up from the Roosevelt headquarters that the National Committee is "assassinating the party," and this when the committee has in most cases, the Roosevelt men thereon coinciding, decided against the Roosevelt impostures. In the case of only two delegates has there been even the shadow of a reason for contest, and because these two Roosevelt delegates are after a fair hearing set aside by the committee, "the Republican party is assassinated!" Undoubtedly the committee in the case of these two delegates decided justly, on evidence presented.

Yet because the committee is deciding fairly and in most cases unanimously, but still against the Roosevelt delegates, we have the threat, first of all, that Roosevelt is going to Chicago himself to "see about this." It is impossible to understand what Roosevelt can do in Chicago by way of intimidation, or changing the decisions of the Republican National Committee; nor for that matter what he can do to help himself in any way. Still, of course, it is all right for him to go to Chicago if he wants to do so, and he can make just as much of a spectacle of himself as he chooses after he gets there; but, how shall he help his cause by so doing?

Another threat is to bolt. But of all threats made or to be made in a Republican Convention, the threat to bolt is the weakest and most disastrous to the side that makes it; for such threat is a confession of weakness and is the announcement of a determination not to abide the result of the Convention's acts. Therefore, the one making that threat has no standing in the Convention; but throws himself out of the running by the very threat that he makes. No convention could possibly so stultify itself as to nominate a man who holds over it a threat to bolt if he does not win.

Another threat is that the delegates will be met at the trains as they arrive in Chicago, and the Taft delegates will be assured that the only chance for the Republican party to win in November is to nominate Roosevelt; that if Taft is nominated defeat is sure. This is practically the same thing as the threat to bolt, brought directly home to the delegates. To make such a threat shows the hopelessness and desperate feeling that prevails in the Roosevelt camp. No self-respecting delegate could do otherwise than to resent such a presentation as this. It would seem as though fair-minded Roosevelt delegates would themselves resent it, and would refuse to have anything to do with such a pusillanimous proposition, even if it is the last desperate resort of a losing fight.

Another threat is to make a public and popular demonstration in Chicago in the hope of intimidating the committee, or the convention, or both. This is something that is perfectly open to the adherents of either side. Either the Roosevelt men or the Taft men are at perfect liberty to make such a demonstration as they choose. They have a right to get up processions, to hold meetings, to have torchlight parades, and all that sort of thing, in the interest of either candidate, or of all three candidates, counting La Follette as one. It is a free country, and every set of adherents of any candidate has a right to make such demonstrations, enthusiastic, public, and even furious as they see fit, always provided that they do not precipitate a riot or in any other way break the peace. But it is impossible to imagine demonstrations of this kind having any real effect upon the work of the committee or of the convention. Still, if it will ease the feelings of any set of delegates to make these demonstrations, it is perfectly sure in advance that nobody will object.

Another threat is that if the Roosevelt contesting delegates are so generally defeated as to deprive the Colonel of any chance of nomination in the regular convention, a Roosevelt convention will be held "right here" that will put him in nomination as a third candidate. This, also, is the same thing as the threat to bolt, and as such, if it comes with any substantial acknowledged purpose from the Roosevelt headquarters, should be enough to rule Roosevelt out from all mention in the convention, and to turn every genuine Republican delegate away from him; for such a determination, acted upon, means the defeat of the Republican party at the election next November; and anyone having such a purpose in view should of right and of political honesty, be debarred from all possibility of consideration by the delegates.

Through all the talk there runs an undertone which is, in fact, a deep, sibilant whisper, of a purpose to stampede the convention for Colonel Roosevelt. But the time for that has gone

by. The possibility of a stampede would rest upon its being sprung upon the convention. But this projected stampede is thoroughly advertised, and as thoroughly protected against. Delegates who go into a convention well fortified and warned against a stampede are not likely to be stampeded; an advertised stampede doesn't take place.

But, as we have said before, we discount all such threats as these, and believe that they will evaporate into thin air, just as we discounted all forecasts of turbulent and wild proceedings in the National Committee. It is shown that everything proceeds in that body with the utmost deliberation and decorum. There is no haste, there is no passion, there is in most cases harmonious, unanimous action. The sensationalism that was so freely promised is absolutely wanting; and so we judge that it will be up to the assembling of the convention and all through the proceedings of that body. If, after the nominations are made, any hot-heads consider it their privilege or duty to bolt and to run a bolting third party candidate, that also is their privilege, but not as party men. They will do so simply as American citizens and as opponents of the Republican party, and not as Republicans or men standing for Republican principles.

## OLD ABUSE OF LINCOLN.

To those of the present generation who have been trained to look upon Lincoln, the great war President, almost with veneration, it will be a shock to realize that in Lincoln's time he was received by the country at large with distrust and suspicion, and that he was pursued with a vindictive calumny compared with which even the present strenuous campaign is mild. It is a clear case, and those who are old enough to recall the times of Lincoln well know of their own knowledge, that if there had been such a thing as Presidential primaries in those days, Lincoln would have had no show whatever for the Republican nomination. Some of the great party leaders, as Seward, Chase, Fremont, or some other of the starry galaxy of the radical element of the party, would undoubtedly have been the nominee; most probably Seward.

As illustrating the way that the press of the country received the nomination of Abraham Lincoln, we may note that the New York Herald, in announcing his nomination, spoke of him as "a third-rate Western lawyer, poorer than even poor Pierce." It lamented that the convention had passed over Seward, Chase and Banks, "who are faithful and able men," to take "a fourth-rate lecturer who cannot speak good grammar and who, to raise the wind, delivers his hackneyed, illiterate compositions at \$200 apiece." The Herald put its readers in mind that "this peripatetic politician visited New York two or three months ago on his financial tour, when, in return for the most unmitigated trash, interlarded with coarse and clumsy jokes, he filled his empty pockets with dollars coined out of Republican fanaticism." In a later issue the Herald spoke of Lincoln as "an uneducated man, a vulgar village politician, without any experience worth mentioning in the practical duties of statesmanship, and only noted for some very unpopular votes which he gave while a member of Congress." And it closed its diatribe by saying, "The comparison between Seward and this illiterate Western boor is odious—it is as Hyperion to a satyr."

The Albany Atlas and Argus speak of Lincoln as having been "first heard of in politics a year ago last fall, when limping with wounds and howling with anguish, he was driven through the State of Illinois by Douglas and defeated with the tacit approval of the majority of his own party, and with the publicly expressed gratulations of Greeley, Weed, and others." Speaking of Lincoln's lecture tour in New York where he was "charging for his speeches at the rate of \$100 apiece," the Albany paper says that Lincoln "was forced to desist amid such public expressions of contempt that he may be said to have been fairly hissed out of the State." The same paper spoke of Lincoln's inexperience in public office, and stated that "he is not known except as a slanghanging stump speaker, of a class with which every party trembles, and of which all parties are ashamed."

The Boston Post in 1860 said that Lincoln "has merely a talent for demagogic appeal that was thought to be worth in New England \$50 or \$100 a speech by those who hired him; but some who heard him were surprised that he should be considered anywhere a great man." It spoke of Lincoln's winning by trickery and demagogism and contemptuously dismissed the idea that he could be elected, by saying, "But such is the intelligence of the country that this attempt must fail."

There is no parallel between that sort of assault upon the great War President and anything that is said in public life today. But it is sufficient to prove the case that Lincoln's standing before the country was extremely poor and uncertain at the time that he was nominated and elected to the Presidency. It was the great cause that he represented that triumphed in his election, and that cause was better served in his person than any one, even his most fervent admirers at the time, could possibly have hoped for. Lincoln was a diamond in the rough. The war polished him, and he shone forth with exceeding brilliance before he died, and his memory has grown brighter and brighter as the years have gone by.

It is to be noted that those who are so fond of comparing themselves with Lincoln in these later times with so little justification for doing so, are drawing their comparisons between themselves and him not with Lincoln who

first appeared in the National political arena under such a cloud of distrust, misrepresentation, and vituperation, but with the great Lincoln hammered and polished to brilliancy, brightness, and radiance which the hot fires of the war induced and perfected. And it is doubtful if those who in these days aspire to be the incarnation of Lincoln understand him any better than did his detractors in his own time.

## FIFTY YEARS OF HOMESTEADS.

Fifty years of free homesteads in the United States were completed on May 27, 1912. We find in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat a retrospect of the passage of the homestead bill and the signing of it on May 27, 1862, by President Lincoln. That act made a new departure among nations in land allotment among its people; and not only was this land allotment made for the citizens of the United States, it was made in effect to the industrious, well-meaning, and energetic people of all the world. Immigrants from the north of Europe came in by the millions, especially after the war, and settled the old Northwest with a rapidity, sureness, and a civilizing capacity for progress, order, and law that had never before been seen among mankind.

The result of that great homestead act, which was first proposed by Representative Galusha A. Grow of Pennsylvania, has been momentous in the development of this country. Mr. Grow had been devoted to the principle of the homestead bill for many years, and for ten years at the beginning of each session of Congress, he introduced in the House a free homestead bill, finally succeeding in 1862. Mr. Grow was Speaker of the Thirty-seventh Congress, which met on July 4, 1861. After 1862 he was out of Congress for a good many years, but was re-elected to the Fifty-ninth Congress in November, 1896, by a plurality of 297,446, this being the largest plurality ever given in any State of the Union to any candidate for any office. He was elected to the Fifty-sixth Congress in 1898, and re-elected to the Fifty-seventh Congress in November, 1900. His service in Congress extended intermittently for a period of more than fifty years. He died in 1907 at the great age of eighty-six.

His memory deserves to be preserved among those of the very greatest men of the Republic, for there is no doubt but that his homestead bill had the paramount effect in rapidly settling the old Northwest and the great central region of the Republic. Since that bill passed, the States of Nevada, Nebraska, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona, thirteen States, have been added to the Union. These States, as the Globe-Democrat remarks, are as many as were comprised in the colonies which united in opposition to the British exactions in 1776, these representing the original States.

Such glorious results followed from the passage of that homestead bill, that we are all the more humiliated to see a sentiment grow up in our later times that not only would have prevented the passage of that bill, but would have consigned all that took advantage of it to prison, and would have left the country in its original state of nature, so that some indefinite future generation might have got the benefit of opening it. But if the modern conservatism had persisted to that future generation, then it would also have stood off in behalf of some generation yet to come. Conservation is the direct antithesis of the homestead law, and very naturally we find the conservationists in deadly enmity with the homesteaders. Everything that restrictive conservation, everything that a mean and annoying espionage can do to thwart the homesteader, is done in these latter times, and while the homestead law still remains upon the books, it is in large degree nullified by the action of the conservation officials, who act upon the presumption that any one who undertakes to go upon the public land and make a home for himself thereon is necessarily a perjurer and thief. The change of sentiment marks the difference between the broad-minded, constructive statesmanship of the past and the narrow-minded, selfish, arbitrary policies of the conservationists of our own time.

## A STRIKING PARALLEL.

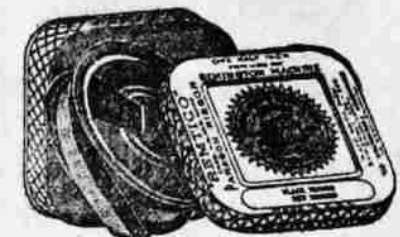
Lord Bacon is a good old standby when any one wishes to get an example of logic and comment on human perversities and apply that old philosopher's language to current conditions or to contemporary persons. Thus we find in an Eastern paper a comment which Lord Bacon wrote upon boldness in civil business and public affairs, which runs thus: "Wonderful like is the case of boldness in civil business. What first? Boldness. What second and third? Boldness. And yet boldness is a child of ignorance and baseness far inferior to other parts. But, nevertheless, it does fascinate and blind hand and foot those that are either shallow in judgment or weak in courage, which are the greatest part, yea, and prevail with wise men at weak times; therefore we see it hath done wonders in popular States, but with Senators and princes less—and more, even upon the first entrance of bold persons into action than soon after, for boldness is an ill keeper of promise." It is not necessary to specify to whom the paper which quoted that applied the comment. Everybody knows him, everybody realizes instinctively the person upon whom such a comparison as that would most evidently and perfectly rest. Of a hundred guesses, every one would be the same.

Champ Clark says that "a man should say what he means, and mean what he says." But this seems to be a new rule with him, adopted since "Canadian annexation."

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## NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS' MEET.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Salt Lake City Improvement company will be held at the office of the company, No. 60 South Main street, in Salt Lake City, Utah, on Thursday, the 20th day of June, 1912, between the hours of 2 a. m. and 6 p. m., for the election of directors for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the meeting.  
L. L. GODDARD, Secretary.  
Dated May 28, 1912.

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